

NEWSLETTER

3 FEBRUARY 2023 TERM 1, WEEK 1 ISSUE 1

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

'Let no obstacle deter you from proceeding with courage' Mary MacKillop, 1907 'Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God' Matthew 5:8

Dear Members of our St Mary's Memorial School Community

Welcome to the 2023 school year and thank you everyone for the warm welcome into your community. I hope you all enjoyed the break and festive season and were able to spend time with your family and friends.

My heart has been filled with such joy and hope as our staff gathered last week for professional development to engage in many learning conversations, while planning for the exciting year ahead. On Tuesday, we gathered with the staff from Our Lady of Grace to celebrate Mass lead by Fr John before sharing a morning tea together as an extended Dominican community and family. There was a great sense of pride, love, and connection amongst the staff from both schools as we shared stories from our holidays, talked with much excitement about the new school year and the opportunities, challenges and moments of grace we will all experience.

During the staff professional days, we learnt more about the Dominican Charism including the four pillars: Prayer, Study, Service and Community all for the sake of Veritas, meaning the truth of God's mercy and love. I felt extremely grateful for the chance to learn from the Dominican Sisters about the history of their travels from Ireland to Australia in 1868, the connection with the Sisters of St Joseph and Mary MacKillop and the symbolism of the gold thread. I learnt how a 'golden thread' runs through the Dominican family story and can be weaved in various ways. We can become part of this 'golden thread' when we join a Dominican community, searching for truth, continuing to learn and be progressive in all we do. What a privilege to be part of such a kind, giving and inclusive community.

While visiting classes this week I have shared a few things about myself with staff and the children, who bless them, have such inquisitive questions, including asking how old I am! For those of you who do not know me, my husband, our two sons, and 1 year old Golden Retriever, Murphy, and cat Ash, live locally in the Western suburbs. We moved to Adelaide 21 years ago from Melbourne via Sydney due to my husband's work. Living within walking distance to the beach, a few minutes from the airport and a very short car trip to Adelaide's CBD is incredible and something I am thankful for every day. I love the beach having grown up in Torquay, Victoria as a child, I enjoy visiting the Barossa Valley, McLaren Vale and the Adelaide Hills and follow various sports including the AFL as a one-eyed Melbourne Demons supporter.

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 7 February Welcome Mass - 10am

Monday 13 - Friday 17 February Meet the Teacher Week

Tuesday 14 February Community Prayer - 8:45am Year 6 Mass - 10am

Wednesday 15 February School Board Meeting - 6:30pm

> Monday 20 February Yr 3-6 Swimming Trials

Tuesday 21 February Community Prayer - 8:45am

Wednesday 22 February Ash Wednesday Yr 3-6 Mass - 9am Rec-Yr 2 Liturgy - 10:30am

ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

I have always worked in Catholic Schools in Adelaide and have been in Murray Bridge for 7 years, and I feel very humbled and privileged to now serve this beautiful community in Glenelg. I look forward to getting to know you all during the Semester, please come and say hello, introduce yourself and know that my door is always open.

WELCOME

I warmly welcome all of our new families to our St Mary's Memorial community and extend an invitation to you all as we work in partnership to support every child with their learning growth, spiritual awareness, and wellbeing. A special welcome to our new Reception children who have settled well during their first week of school and even provided me with some reassurance to calm my nerves in a new school setting.

We also welcome baby Brodie, a new son for Mr Dave Anderson and Marita. Brodie was born just in time for Christmas on 20 December 2022; what a very special gift.

Returning from Maternity Leave and re-joining our community, we welcome back Mrs Connie Trimboli.

NEW BEGINNINGS 2023

It is with great pleasure I introduce the newest members of the teaching and learning team and welcome them also to our school community.

Year 1 Teacher – Miss Samantha O'Malley

Year 4 Teacher - Mr Nathan Munro

Curriculum Education Support Officers – Ms Claudia Adami and Mrs Maria Salas Sanz

Administration Education Support Officers – Ms Rachel Hewitt

COVID

COVID-19 continues to affect the community and we all have a part to play in keeping our school community safe and minimising the disruption to learning that can occur when illness circulates at school. Please remember if students are unwell they should stay home if they have cold or flu-like symptoms and get tested for COVID-19. If they have COVID-19, please advise the school as soon as possible, and stay at home until all acute symptoms (runny nose, sore throat, cough and fever) have cleared.

KISS n DROP ZONE

The safe management of traffic around schools is very important and helps everyone remain safe. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank our parent community for your cooperation in the seamless use of the school Kiss n Drop zone on Milton Street. For new families and as a friendly reminder for everyone, please observe the street signs and note the times this area must be kept clear with no parking of cars between 8:00-9:00am and 3:00-4:00pm.

I was not familiar with the rules and regulations so this morning I took the photos below which I hope might be a helpful reminder. I have been informed that parking inspectors regularly attend the school zones, so please ensure you follow the rules and restrictions around the school to avoid any potential fines.





MEET THE TEACHER

During Week 3 this term, Monday 13 – Friday 17 February, our Reception – Year 6 teachers, and Specialist teachers will be offering 15 minute 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. This is a vital time for connecting with the teachers and for you to provide us with any relevant information you feel will further enhance and support your child/ren's time at school. We encourage all families to make a booking using the online School Interviews booking system. More information and details will be provided via email directly to all families in Week 2.

As we begin this year, we pray that God will bless all St Mary's Memorial School members and guide us as a Catholic community in our important work throughout 2023

I wish every student and their families the very best for 2023.

Mrs Sonja Smith Acting Principal

FROM THE APRIM

And we're back!

It was so lovely to start this year "normally" and meet everyone on day one. It was lovely to feel the excitement and see all the faces of our children returning to their second home and our wonderful St Mary's Memorial School community. It was one of the smoothest starts to the school year I have ever experienced — well done to all the families and our staff for making the first day for each of the children positive.

As we have had a number of years of COVID disruptions this year our school has decided to focus on community. We will endeavour to create many and varied opportunities to come together and celebrate. With this in mind we have a very active Parents and Friends group who are keen to promote these community minded events. If you would like to support this group we would love to hear from you. Many hands make light work and this is a wonderful way to build community spirit. Please email me if you are interested.



















This morning I wandered around our school and took some action shots of the children. It was great to see everyone fully engaged in various activities and beginning to create memories for this year of school. From sport, to fruit snack time; from collecting Chromebooks, to literacy blocks, there were many busy people around our school this morning.

As part of Community Prayer this week we shared with the children the four Dominican Pillars on which our school stands. I share these with you here:

Study – St Dominic saw study as essential and saw it as a priority that his brothers got an excellent education. So too, the Dominican Sisters see education as valuable. As Dominican's ourselves we have a responsibility to carry on this valuable tradition and take advantage of the education we have here at St Mary's Memorial School and to study hard.

Prayer – Dominican's centre their lives on Jesus Christ. Prayer is one way we can meet Jesus, so we endeavour to spend time in prayer every single day, as a reminder that God is with us.

Service – St Dominic and his first brothers were known to travel far and wide and to go out to those in need where they were. So too the Dominican Sisters travelled to help others. The Dominican Sisters who established schools in Adelaide travelled all the way from Ireland, as there was a need for schools here. In fact, it was St Mary MacKillop who welcomed them and gave them a home when they first arrived in Australia. As St Mary MacKillop said often, "Never see a need without doing something about it". We too are called to serve those in need.

Community – Dominican's value time spent together as a way of being one heart and mind in God. As a Dominican community we are invited to do the same. By coming together as one community we can achieve so much more than if we were on our own and it is a great way to create a sense of belonging.

As our year unfolds hopefully you will see these pillars in action in our school community.

Joy and blessings, **Tamara Smith**

SUNDAY GOSPEL OUOTE



SACRAMENT PROGRAM

Last year a group of children celebrated their Sacrament of Reconciliation in Term 4, 2022. For anyone who missed this and would like their child to join the Sacramental Program this year please contact the parish asap.

In term two this year the program will continue with the sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist in term 3. We will contact you as the time draws near about what will be happening.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Father John at the parish:

GLENELG CATHOLIC PARISH

Our Lady of Victories, 13-15 High St, Glenelg SA 5045 Our Lady of Grace, 36 Beadnall Tce, Glengowrie SA 5044

Presbytery: 17 High Street, Glenelg Office Hours: Mon, Wed-Fri 9am-2pm

Phone: 08 8294 1888

Email: glenelgcp@bigpond.com Web: www.glenelgcp.com

MASSES

Masses and liturgies are celebrated regularly and we warmly invite family and friends to join our year level celebrations.

Changes to the calendar regarding Masses and their times will need to be made occasionally as the needs of our parish and our priests come up. The newsletter will publish the most current times. Apologies for any inconvenience.

Family Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 12th Feb at Our Lady of Victories Church at both the 10:30am Mass and the 5pm Mass. The parish would love to see you there.

Tamara Smith
APRIM | tsmith@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au

PRAYER

Our School Prayer

This is our school. Let peace live here. Let the rooms be filled with happiness. Let love be felt here; love of God, love of our fellow humans, love of one another, and love of life itself. Let us remember, that as many hands build a house, so many hearts make a school. Lord, we ask you to bless all of us involved in St Mary's Memorial School, children, parents, priests and teachers. Help us to work together to continue to make our school a place where everyone is welcomed and supported in the true spirit of God's love for us.

MASS & LITURGY CALENDAR

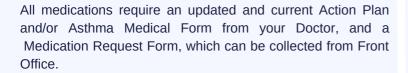
Term 1 is always our busiest term. Here is an outline of some of the main celebrations on our school's Church calendar.

Week 2	Welcome Mass - Whole School	Tue 10am
Week 3	Year 6 Mass	Tue 10am
Week 4	Shrove Tuesday Ash Wednesday Years 3 - 6 Mass R - 2 Liturgy	Wed 9am Wed 10:30 am
Week 5	Year 5 Mass	Tue 10am
Week 6	Year 4 Mass	Tue 10am
Week 7	Sabbath Week - No Mass	
Week 8	Year 3 Mass - St Mary's Hall	Tue 10am
Week 9	Rec, R1 & Yr 2 Liturgy	Tue 9am
Week 10	Holy Week Presentation	Thu 12pm
Week 11	Easter Mass - Whole School	Tue 10am

MEDICATIONS

ALL MEDICATIONS MUST COME TO THE OFFICE.

Please bring your child's medication to the Front Office in the original container/ packaging that has been prescribed by the Doctor. The medication needs to be clearly labeled and we ask that you check it is within the expiry date.



MEDICATIONS MUST NOT BE LEFT IN SCHOOL BAGS, AS IT POSES A DANGER TO OTHER CHILDREN

PLEASE BRING ALL MEDICATIONS
TO THE FRONT OFFICE

VOLUNTEERING IN 2023

To volunteer in 2023 at St Mary's Memorial School you will need to complete a Volunteer Information Pack, available from the Front Office. All volunteers are to have a current Catholic Police Clearance, which can be applied for through the school or alternatively, already hold a current DHS (Department of Human Services) Working With Children's Clearance.

In addition to the appropriate Police Clearance, all volunteers will need to complete the RRHAN (Responding to Risk of Harm, Abuse and Neglect for Volunteers) Course. Please go to the following link, login and complete the RRHAN training by clicking on Non Department for Education Staff.

https://www.plink.sa.edu.au

All paperwork is to be handed to the school office to allow for processing prior to volunteering.

Should you have any queries or wish to become a Registered Volunteer at St Mary's Memorial School, please contact the School Office.



UNIFORM SHOP

TERM 1 OPENING TIMES

TUESDAY 2:45 - 3:30pm **THURSDAY** 2:45 - 3:30pm



Please contact Christine on: 0424 776 381 Email: ccoombe@belgraviasports.com.au

(Please note new email address)

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Or visit the St Mary's Memorial School <u>Online Uniform</u> Shop:-

- Open 24/7
- AfterPay available
- Delivery information is on your online shop home page

How to Order

- 1. Create an Account (optional)
- 2. Add products to your cart
- 3. Fill in Special Instructions for seller field with your child's name.
- 4. Check out by following the prompts.
- 5. You can log back in at any time and view your past orders.

LUNCH ORDERS

Lunch orders are available every week day of the school term from The Daily Fixx. Lunch menus/order forms can be collected from the front office.

Please remember to fully complete the appropriate order form and then place the order into a brown paper bag, ziplock bag or envelope. Write your child's full name clearly on the brown paper bag, zip-lock bag or envelope.

Orders must be received at the Front Office by no later than 10:00am.

If there is a shortage of funds in your child's lunch order you will receive an email requesting monies to be paid to the Front Office the following day.

STUDENT COUNSELLING SUPPORT



Sometimes in life we are presented with challenges that can cause us to feel overwhelmed. At these times it can be helpful to have someone to talk with, to help process what is happening around us and what we are feeling inside. As school counsellor I am here to help support students through these times.



My approach to counselling is holistic, strengths based, trauma informed and relational. Referrals can be through school staff, parents or self-referral. Referral forms are located via the front office or can be requested directly by emailing me at saltmann@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au

The school counselling program is run by Centacare Catholic Family Services. If you would like to know more about the program you can access a school counselling brochure through the following link. https://centacare.org.au/service/school-counselling-program/

If you would like to talk to me more about how I can support your child and family, you are welcome to chat with me in person (school drop off or pick up times work best), via phone (8294 4580) or through email.

Sandy Altmann School Counsellor (on site: Thursdays / Fridays) Email: saltmann@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au

ph: 8294 4580

ATTENDANCE

We remind parents to advise the front office via email info@stmarmem.catholic.ed u.au if your child will not be attending for the day or will be late to school.

If you wish to email the teacher direct about attendance, please include the school office email above. This will ensure the admin team (Deb, Rachel and Angela) who are responsible for changing the attendance codes on the data system are aware and can update accordingly.

We thank you for your ongoing support.

OSHC - OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

We remind families that all OSHC bookings must be made via the **Kidsoft iportal** by a parent/ guardian. Access to the **Kidsoft iportal** is provided to families when registering for the OSHC service. Please note that the school office staff do not have the ability to make any new bookings or any amendments/ cancellations on your behalf.

Please email Vicki directly at OSHC for any changes or cancellations.

Vicki - <u>vmessent@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au</u> OSHC Mobile: 0408 714 787

Cancellations must be made by 4pm the day prior to avoid full fees being charged. Please email Vicki as above.

Parents are unable to cancel via the Kidsoft iportal.







ST MARY'S MEMORIAL SCHOOL

FINANCE NEWS

The 2023 school fee statements will be sent home on **Monday 13th February**. Please contact me if you do not receive yours.

The first school fee instalment is due by Friday 03/03/2023. The amount due is 1/3 of the total amount that has been charged to your account. The school has multiple payment options, please refer to your statement for further information.

SCHOOL CARD

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR SCHOOL CARD IN 2023?

School Card is a South Australian Government initiative to assist low to middle income earners with education costs.

Please see the table below to see if you may be eligible. Income limits are based on 2021/22 financial year unless a change in circumstances has occurred.

NUMBER OF DEPENDENT CHILDREN	GROSS ANNUAL SCHOOL CARD INCOME LIMIT	GROSS WEEKLY SCHOOL CARD INCOME LIMIT
1	\$66,412	\$1,277
2	\$67,598	\$1,300
3	\$68,784	\$1,323
4	\$69,970	\$1,346
5	\$71,156	\$1,369
Each additional dependent	Add \$1,186 to gross annual	Add \$23 for each dependent
child	income	child

If you think that you may be eligible, please complete your application for School Card online by following the below link:

https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/financial-help-scholarships-and-grants/school-card-scheme

Once your application is complete, send a copy of the form to the email address below. If you require a paper form to complete your application, please contact the front office for assistance.

Please contact me if you have any queries in relation to school fee accounts, direct debit arrangements or 2023 School Card. I am available by email at finance@stmarmem.catholic.edu.au , by phone on 8294 4580 or in person or Monday – Friday.

Jennifer Ashfield Finance Officer

